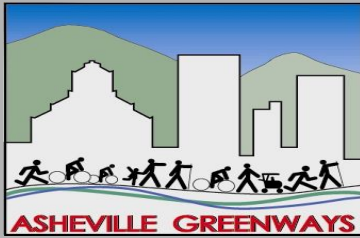


GREENWAY COMMITTEE MEETING

December 12, 2013

3:30-5:00 pm

First Floor Conference Room-City Hall



GREENWAY COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the City of Asheville's Greenway Commission is to advise City Council on implementation of a system of greenways within Asheville by integrating City and County Parks and Transportation plans while educating and engaging the public and advocating for funding.

Members Present: Sue Barlow, Chairman, Bryan Mitchell, Secretary, Stephen Jones, Mary Weber, Jim Grode, Marcia Bromberg.

Staff Present: Mariate Echeverry, Transportation Planning Manager, Roderick Simmons, Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

Community Present: Jack Igelman

- Chairman Barlow called the meeting to order at 3:32.
- **Review and approval of 12-12-13 agenda:** Jim moved and Marcia seconded and carried unanimously.
- **Review and approval of 11-14-13 minutes:** Marcia moved to approve the minutes as written, Stephen seconded and carried unanimously.

New Business:

- **Greenway Committee Member Stephen Jones Honored** - Sue presented:

1. Stephen Jones is finishing his term on the Greenway Committee (GC), which began in January 2010, at today's meeting. The GC honored his dedicated service with a plaque.

- **Jack Igelman Presenting the Hominy Creek Greenway Plan** - Jack, President of Friends of the Hominy Creek Greenway:

1. The Friends of Hominy Creek Greenway (FOHCG) worked with the City Parks and Recreation Department and designer Pete Wall to produce the proposed plan for HCG brought to the meeting today.
2. There was an open house in early November with the general public at RiverLink to discuss the master plan.
3. The FOHCG would like to keep the 12-acre area as natural and unique as possible.
4. Last week an ad hoc group of educators met for a walk through the property to discuss land use.
5. Friends of Connect Buncombe has a project that could connect with HCG to the south.
6. The community in the Vermont Road area is interested in what could happen with Rhododendron Creek that connects with Hominy Creek.
7. FOHCG is seeking a new board member.

- **Site Visit to Burton Street:** Mariate stated:

1. Set for February 13, 2014 at 2pm. The GC will meet in front of City Hall.
2. Transportation will be provided by the City.
3. The GC will spend an hour at Burton Street and then spend an hour at Hominy Creek Greenway.

- **Greenway Committee Annual Report:** Marcia:

1. Compiled notes from the GC 2013 session for an annual report of the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission (MMTC).

2. Items to be added to the notes - work on feasibility studies at planning session in February 2013, the MMTC was formed with direction from the GC
3. The GC will have an opportunity to add notes prior to Dec 20.

- **Letter from the I-26 Working Group:** Julie Mayfield, member of the MMTC and Transit Commission, representing the I-26 Working Group stated:

1. The Working Group came together in March 2013 to develop consensus on issues surrounding the I-26 project, made up of Brownie Newman, Holly Jones, Marc Hunt, other elected officials, Julie, and a community business leader.
2. The letter that Julie is talking about is written to NCDOT in regards to the I-26 project and includes the City's newly revised Greenway Master Plan. The letter addresses the lack of planning revolving around bike and pedestrian issues with the project.
3. The Working Group held a workshop in November 2013 about how to address this lack of planning.
4. This letter is the Working Group's final set of recommendations in regards to bike and pedestrian corridors impacted by the project.
5. Julie will send a link to the drawing of the proposed Amboy/Brevard Road intersection at I-26.
6. New project designs will be delivered by NCDOT in April/May 2014.

- **Update from Carolina Thread Forum Workshop:** Mary attended the Forum and reported:

1. The Carolina Thread Trail is comprised of 15 counties in the Charlotte/Piedmont region that are linking communities via greenway trails.
2. The goal of the group is to add 75 miles of greenways per year (5 miles per county) until the goal of 1,400 miles is built.
3. The group holds an annual one day workshop. This workshop featured many great speakers and breakout sessions on different trail designs and settings.

Old Business:

- **Multi-Modal Transportation Commission (MMTC):** Mary stated:

1. At the last meeting, sidewalk issues were addressed with new development near Summit Avenue as part of a ROW closure request.
2. Marcia's term was voted to be extended. A larger plan was developed for terms in the future to prevent complications.
3. The NC Bike Summit will be held in Asheville in 2015/2016.
4. MMTC discussed Safe Routes to Schools program - there is \$17 million left in NC funds to be used by 2015. MMTC discussed a resolution for this funding to be given to local Metropolitan Planning Organizations to be used for similar projects.
5. Councilwoman Gwen Wisler will serve as Council Liaison to the MMTC.
6. The MMTC decided to raise the number of possible GC members to eleven at one time with a minimum of seven members. The GC will look to add more diversity with these possible new members.
7. The Haywood Road Form-Based Code report is available on the City's website.

- **Recruitment of New Greenway Committee Members:** Mariate:

1. Presented a revised application for the GC and Transit Committees.
2. GC discussed and gave input on changes to be made to the application.
3. Mariate will make changes and then recruitment will begin.

Greenway Committee Updates:

- **Community Outreach Committee Report:** Sue reported:

1. Although no GC members were able to attend the Destination Development Forum focused on tourism in the region, greenways were mentioned considerably as a needed asset to continue to spur tourism according to an Asheville Citizen-Times news article and reports from attendees.

- **Asheville Parks and Greenways Foundation Report:** Stephen had nothing to report.

- **Friends of Connect Buncombe County (FOCB) Update:** Marcia reported:
 1. The Kickoff Event is in the initial stages of planning.
 2. FOCB is beginning to start relations with the Cultural and Recreational Authority.
 3. Marcia encourages all GC members to become members of FOCB when website enlistment is up and running soon.

Staff Updates:

- **Transportation Update:** Mariate reported updates on a list of projects:
 1. See the attached List of Projects.
 2. Request For Proposals are due December 13, 2013 for the Multi-Modal Transportation Master Plan.
- **PRCA Update:** No update
- **Planning:** No update

Final Comments:

- None

Sue Adjourned at 4:50 pm